

88. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the non-human CD40 ligand comprises murine CD40 ligand.

89. (New) A method for expressing a ligand capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor in a human cell that expresses a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the cell.

90. (New) A method for increasing the concentration of a ligand on the surface of a human cell, wherein the ligand is capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the human cell, the chimeric CD40 ligand having increased stability on the surface of the cell relative to that of a human CD40 ligand.

91. (New) The method of claims 89 and 90 wherein the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises one or more human CD40 ligand domain or subdomain and one or more non-human CD40 ligand domain or subdomain.

92. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein the non-human CD40 ligand domain or subdomain comprises a murine CD40 ligand domain or subdomain.

93. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the murine CD40 ligand domain or subdomain comprises a murine CD40 ligand extracellular domain.

Sub 8
94. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the murine CD40 ligand domain or subdomain comprises Domain III, or a subdomain of Domain III, of the murine CD40 ligand.

Sub 8
95. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the murine CD40 ligand domain or subdomain comprises Domain IV, or a subdomain of Domain IV, of the murine CD40 ligand.

C1 Cont
96. (New) The method of claim 94 wherein the murine CD40 ligand further comprises Domain IV, or a subdomain of Domain IV, of the murine CD40 ligand.

Sub 8
97. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the murine CD40 ligand comprises Domain I, or a subdomain of Domain I, of the murine CD40 ligand.

98. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the murine CD40 ligand comprises Domain II, or a subdomain of Domain II, of the murine CD40 ligand.

Sub 8
99. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 5, SEQ ID NO 6, SEQ ID NO. 7 or SEQ ID NO. 20.

Sub F10
100. (New) The method of claim 99 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises SEQ ID NO. 3.

101. (New) The method of claims 89 and 90, wherein the introduction of the nucleic acid sequence into the cell results in induced expression of surface markers on the cell.

C1 Cont
102. (New) The method of claim 101, wherein the surface markers comprise CD54, CD80, CD86, CD58, CD70, or CD95.

Sub D4
103. (New) The method of claims 89 and 90, wherein the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises one or more domain or subdomain of a human CD40 ligand and one or more domain or subdomain of a non-human ligand selected from the group consisting of CD40 ligand, TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, Fas ligand, CD70, CD30 ligand, 4-1 BBL, Nerve growth factor beta, and TNF-related apoptosis inducing ligand (TRAIL).

104. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein the non-human ligand domain or subdomain comprises a murine ligand domain or subdomain.

105. (New) The method of claim 104 wherein the murine ligand comprises Domain III, or a subdomain of Domain III, of the murine ligand.

106. (New) The method of claim 104 wherein the murine ligand comprises Domain IV, or a subdomain of Domain IV, of the murine ligand.

107. (New) The method of claim 105 wherein the murine ligand further comprises Domain IV, or a subdomain of Domain IV, of the murine ligand.

Sub 3
C1
108. (New) The method of claims 89 and 90 wherein the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises one or more domain or subdomain of human CD40 ligand and one domain or subdomain of a human ligand selected from the group consisting of TNF-alpha, TNF-beta, Fas ligand, CD70, CD30 ligand, 4-1 BBL, Nerve growth factor beta, and TNF-related apoptosis inducing ligand (TRAIL).

109. (New) The method of claim 108, wherein the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises Domain IV, or a subdomain of Domain IV, of human CD40 ligand.

110. (New) The method of claim 109 wherein the chimeric CD40 ligand comprises Domains I, II, and IV of human CD40 and Domain III of human CD70 receptor ligand.

Ind 21
111. (New) The method of claims 89 and 90, wherein the cell comprises a human neoplastic cell.

112. (New) The method of ~~claims~~ 89 and 90 wherein the cell comprises a cell from connective tissue surrounding ~~neoplastic~~ cells.

Sub F10 113. (New) The method of ~~claim~~ 111, wherein the cell comprises a neoplastic B cell.

Q1 ant 114. (New) The method of ~~claim~~ 113, wherein the neoplastic B cell comprises a CLL cell.

115. (New) The method of claim 113 wherein the neoplastic B cell is derived from a patient with a B cell malignancy.

Sub F7 116. (New) The method of ~~claim~~ 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a T cell.

117. (New) The method of ~~claim~~ 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a dendritic cell.

118. (New) The method of ~~claim~~ 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a monocyte.

119. (New) The method of claim 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a myelomonocyte.

120. (New) The method of claim 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from a breast tumor.

121. (New) The method of claim 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from an ovarian tumor.

122. (New) The method of claim 111 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from a lung tumor.

123. (New) A method for expressing a ligand capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor in a human neoplastic cell that expresses a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the cell.

124. (New) A method for increasing the concentration of a ligand on the surface of a human neoplastic cell, wherein the ligand is capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the human cell, the chimeric CD40 ligand having increased stability on the surface of the cell relative to that of a human CD40 ligand.

125. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124, wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a neoplastic B cell.

126. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein the neoplastic B cell comprises a CLL cell.

127. (New) The method of claim 125 wherein the neoplastic B cell is derived from a patient with a B cell malignancy.

C1
128. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124, wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a neoplastic T cell.

129. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a dendritic cell.

130. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a monocyte.

131. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a myelomonocyte.

132. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from a breast tumor.

133. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from an ovarian tumor.

134. (New) The method of claims 123 and 124 wherein the neoplastic cell comprises a cell derived from a lung tumor.

135. (New) A method for expressing a ligand capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor in a human cell that expresses a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the cell, wherein the cell is derived from connective tissue surrounding neoplastic cells.

136. (New) A method for increasing the concentration of a ligand on the surface of a human cell derived from connective tissue surrounding neoplastic cells, wherein the ligand is capable of binding to a CD40 ligand receptor, comprising introducing a nucleic acid sequence encoding a chimeric CD40 ligand into the human cell, the chimeric CD40 ligand having increased stability on the surface of the cell relative to that of a human CD40 ligand.